

Arlington Council on Aging Meeting Minutes January 21, 2016

Present: Mara Klein Collins, Jim Munsey, Noreen Murphy, Sue Culhane, Dick Phelps, Ann Fitzgerald, Jill Greenlee and Marge Vanderhill.
Associate members present: Karen Nichols and Bob Tosi

I. Call to order: The regular meeting of the Council on Aging Board was called to order by Mara Klein Collins at 6:02PM on January 21, 2016, at 27 Maple Street, Arlington, MA.

Citizen's Open Forum: No one present.

II. Old Business: The COA subcommittee's report on walkways and entrance at the Senior Center.

Subcommittee members: Jim Munsey, Ann Fitzgerald, Noreen Murphy, and Mara Klein Collins.

Christine Bongiorno, Director of Health and Human Services, guest presenter.

A. The Arlington Redevelopment Board requested \$200K for architectural plans for a feasibility study in the 2017 budget year which begins July 2016. This would include an upgrade of the HVAC system, a rehab of the ground floor and bringing the building up to code.

B. Step two: Two million dollars for upgrades in the 2018 budget. The Capital Planning Committee recommended not to fund.

C. Mara sent a written request to Laura Weiner, Acting Planning Board Director to be put on the agenda. She responded that Christine Bongiorno is heading those efforts. Christine said Jennifer Rait is starting in February as the Director of Planning. She will set something up once they are settled.

D. Christine is awaiting a meeting with the Town Manager and member of the Capital Planning Committee the following week re: not recommending the two million dollars in funding for upgrades.

III. Report of the Chair

A. Friends of the COA.

1. Mara sent an invitation and the dates of our Board meetings as well an offer to do our presentation from last January for them. There has been no response. Karen Nichols and Ann Fitzgerald will try to set up a meeting.

2. Jim Munsey will give the COA presentation to the “Coffee and Conversation” group, volunteers for the COA and Arlington Senior Association, on Monday, Jan 25, 2016, at 10AM.

B. Newsletter: Mara is available some Fridays to work on this. If someone has a laptop with Publisher the newsletter can be completed. Jim volunteered to help by learning Publisher using his own laptop with assistance from Mara.

C. Vision 20/20 gave the questions submitted by the COA prominent coverage in the town survey. The COA will ask the committee to present findings to the Board once results are tallied.

IV. Executive Director’s Report

A. Susan submitted the Grant Wish List to the Friends of the COA for 2016. As of January 19, 2016, there was no response.

B. Transportation and COA budgets have been submitted. All are level funded.

C. Dr. Lesley Mandel, a professor at Regis College, approached the COA about her senior class working on a project to benefit Health and Human Services.

V. Other Reports: Friends of the COA, no representative.

VI. Minutes of the December 17, 2015, were accepted. Moved by Jim Munsey.

VII. New Business: Karen Nichols raised another funding option for the COA. She reported Belmont funds senior services by a line item on the town’s property tax bill. It was noted this was done years ago with minimal results.

VIII. Meeting was adjourned at 7:14PM